From: Mayer, Jerrold H

Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 7:54 AM

**To:** 'SF-HOUSING-COUNSELING-L@hudlist.hud.gov' **Subject:** New Training Updates for Housing Counselors

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## **New Training Updates for Housing Counselors:**

- 1. HUD Training for Housing Counselors: Visit the HUD Office of Housing Counseling (OHC) Training Calendar on-line. Webinars listed on the same dates are at different times. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. View System Requirements. All OHC webinars will be archived in the OHC Webinar Archive.
  - February 03, 2015 Webinar: Financial Assessment Training for HECM Counselors: Join us for a webinar at 3:00 PM Eastern time. The OHC will be conducting trainings for current and prospective HECM counselors on Mortgagee Letters 2014-22 and 2014-21, Financial Assessment and Financial Assessment Guide. The training will be conducted by HUD staff from the Office of Single Family Housing and OHC. A second session will be offered. Register on-line.
  - February 03, 2015 Webinar: Omni Circular for Local HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agencies and sub-grantees. Sponsored by the OHC. Register on-line.
  - February 04, 2015 Webinar: FHA Downpayment Assistance Program
    Training. Sponsored by FHA's Santa Ana Homeownership Center and the
    OHC. Learn about: Loan-to-value, FHA's downpayment and
    documentation requirements when the borrower's downpayment is being
    provided by a government entity. OHC will also provide an update.
    Register on-line.
  - February 10, 2015 Webinar: Financial Assessment Training for HECM Counselors: The OHC will be conducting trainings for current and prospective HECM counselors on Mortgagee Letters 2014-22 and 2014-21, Financial Assessment and Financial Assessment Guide and HECM Program Changes. The training will be conducted by HUD staff from the Office of Single Family Housing and the OHC. This is the second session for those who cannot attend the first session on February 03, 2015. Register on-line.

- February 10, 2015 Webinar: Omni Circular for State Housing Finance Agencies, Multi-State Organizations and Intermediaries. Sponsored by OHC. Register on-line.
- February 17, 2015 Webinar: Demonstration of Financial Assessment\Component of RMA (HECM). The OHC will be conducting training for current and prospective HECM Counselors on the use of the Financial Assessment component of the IBIS Reverse Mortgage Analyzer software. The training will be conducted by HUD staff and IBIS. Register on-line.
- February 17, 2015 Webinar: How to read a financial statement. This training will help housing counselors learn all about financial statements.
   Sponsored by the OHC. Register on-line.
- March 03, 2015 Webinar: Detecting and Preventing Fraud in Small Organizations. Learn how to detect and prevent fraud in your organization from the experts, HUD's Office of the Inspector General. These tips include practices that non-profits can put in place with low to zero costs. Register on-line.
- March 10, 2015 Webinar: IRS Training for Non-Profit Organizations.
  Housing counselors are invited to attend this training which will explain the
  historical background of the credit counseling industry and interaction with
  the federal tax law governing tax-exempt organizations, and also identify
  the specific requirements of IRS section 501(q). Sponsored by the OHC
  and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Register on-line.
- HUD Exchange: HUD has launched an online curriculum, including video, dynamic presentations and self-paced training modules, designed to help HUD partners understand Federal financial requirements. The HUD Exchange Training and Events website also has many other courses and training opportunities of interest to non-profit and local government agencies. Visit <a href="HUD Exchange">HUD Exchange</a> to learn more and register for training opportunities. To access HUD Exchange you must first create an account. This <a href="document">document</a> contains step by step instructions for creating an account on the HUD Exchange website. Once you have created an account, you will be able to access different HUD Exchange components.
  - HUD Exchange Financial Management Curriculum: Completing the financial management curriculum will assist grantees and subrecipients to comply with federal grant requirements, increase effectiveness, and maximize efficiency. The first course, Financial Management 101, provides an introduction to key topics and financial management basics. View on-line.

- 2. IRS Educational Training for Exempt Organizations: The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers training for non-profit organizations. Visit their website to view the IRS training calendar. The IRS provides training for tax-exempt organizations and charitable organizations seeking tax-exempt status at: www.StayExempt.irs.gov. The site includes information for new applicants; information to help existing exempt organizations maintain their exemption; and more in-depth topics. Also view the IRS webinar course catalog for workshops you can take on-line. Training dates include:
  - May 12, 2015 St. Louis, MO
  - May 14, 2015 Springfield, MO
- 3. NeighborWorks® Training Opportunities: More information can be found on their training calendar. For On-line training: visit NeighborWorks® Training Website to see their on-line course catalog and register for training opportunities.
  - NeighborWorks Updated HECM Basics eLearning Course: Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Counseling Basics Overview, an eLearning course, has been updated with the latest information on loan costs, loan calculation, payment plans, HECM counseling session requirements, and post-counseling follow-up. To register visit NW online.
  - The New NeighborWorks Store: NeighborWorks Center for Homeownership Education and Counseling (NCHEC) is a leading resource on pre-purchase and post-purchase homeowner education. Prospective homeowners learn the entire home-buying process, from managing money and understanding credit to securing a mortgage loan and shopping for a home in Realizing the American Dream. The manual's teaching companion, realizing the American Dream Trainer's Manual, provides instructors with teaching tools, activities, worksheets and visual aids. Are you counseling homeowners? Keeping the American Dream will give them the skills they need to remain secure in their new home purchase. To learn more about these publications or make a purchase, visit NeigbhorWorksStore.org.
  - NeighborWorks® Training Institutes: Learn, network and share best practices -- building your skills, maximizing your effectiveness and impact of your Agency.
    - o February 23-27, 2015 Los Angeles, CA, Register on-line.
- NeighborWorks' winter eClassroom Express Schedule: eClassroom Express courses are a convenient, cost-friendly way to refresh your knowledge about topic areas in homeownership and financial capability as well as topics covered in the Dodd-Frank legislation. For more information, visit NW online.

- February 03, 2015 Housing Affordability: Building Competency in Housing Counseling
- February 10, 2015 Responsibilities of Homeownership and Tenancy:
   Building Competency in Housing Counseling
- **4. NHNLA Training for Housing Counselors:** The National Council of La Raza Homeownership Network Learning Alliance (NHNLA) offers housing counselors extensive on-line and in-person training opportunities on a variety of topics. For more information, registration and course details, please visit the <a href="NHNLA training Calendar">NHNLA training Calendar</a>. Please see the list of new courses below:
  - February 09, 2015 eLearning Housing Counseling Competency: Property Maintenance
  - February 16, 2015 eLearning Housing Counseling Competency: Responsibilities of Homeownership and Tenancy
  - March 02, 2015 elearning 3 week course: Foreclosure I
  - March 02, 2015 Financial Counseling
  - March 02, 2015 elearning 3 week course: Housing Counseling Competency: Dodd-Frank Act Prep Course (Spanish)
  - April 01, 2015 elearning 3 week course: Housing Counseling Competency: Dodd-Frank Act Prep Course
  - April 01, 2015 elearning 1 week course: Housing Counseling Competency: Fair Housing
  - April 01, 2015 elearning 1 week course: Housing Counseling Competency: Housing Affordability
  - April 01, 2015 elearning 1 week course: Housing Counseling Competency: Avoidance of Foreclosure and Eviction
  - April 01, 2015 elearning 3 week course: Foreclosure II
  - May 13-15, 2015 Hartford, CT: Housing Counseling Program Management, Financial Counseling, Housing Counseling Competency: Dodd-Frank Act Prep Course, Rental Counseling
  - May 21, 2015 Webinar: Fair Housing
  - May 26, 2015 Webinar: Basic Client Management Using Home Counselor
  - May 27, 2015 Webinar: Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Counseling
  - May 28, 2015 Webinar: Advanced Client Management Using Home Counselor Online
- 5. National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) National Training Academy comes to Washington DC: The conference is an opportunity to engage with colleagues on issues such as mortgage servicing, exclusionary zoning, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, disparate impact, and other important community concerns. This includes gaining a clear understanding

of emerging legal issues and cases, and how they may affect local communities.

- March 25, 2015 NCRC Annual Conference. Register on-line.
- March 25-28, 2015 NCRC Annual Conference Housing Counseling Course. Dodd Frank Test Taking Practices: Preparing for the HUD Certification Exam. This course is designed to provide housing counseling practitioners with test-taking tools and strategies to prepare for and pass the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) competency certification examinations. This course does not replace content mastery, which can be obtained through the NCRC Dodd-Frank elearning Training Series, but is designed to teach practitioners methods that will increase the probability of passing the HUD examination. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act requires counselors at HUD-approved housing counseling organizations to be certified by HUD as competent to provide comprehensive counseling services. As a result, HUD will administer a standardized exam testing counselors' competencies in six major areas of housing counseling. The National Training Academy will provide a review and a certificate of completion for each of the required competency areas. Scholarships are available, Register on-line. The competency areas are:
  - Financial Management
  - Home Maintenance and Financial Management for New Homeowners
  - Consumer Rights and Responsibilities of Homeownership and Tenancy
  - Fair Housing
  - Housing Affordability
  - o Avoiding Delinquency/Default and Eviction.

## 6. FHA Servicing & Loss Mitigation Training:

Classroom Training. Early Delinquency Servicing Activities and HUD's Loss Mitigation Training. Classroom training is for HUD-approved mortgagees, HUD-approved Housing Counselors, and Nonprofit Housing Counselors. For-profit Housing Counselors are not permitted to attend this training. This training covers a broad range and includes full coverage on: HUD Handbook 4330.1 REV-5, Chapter 7, Delinquencies, Defaults, Mortgage Collection Activities and HUD's Loss Mitigation Waterfall Program. Additionally, overviews will be presented pertaining to Extension of Time Requests and Variances and Single Family Default Monitoring System. No fee. Space is limited to 45 participants; Registration is first come, first served. For more information, please email: eclass@hud.gov, Register on-line. Training dates include:

- o February 24-25, 2015 Oklahoma City, OK
- o May 12-13, 2015 Oklahoma City, OK
- o August 11-12, 2015 Oklahoma City, OK
- Webinar Training. Open to FHA-Approved Servicers and FHA-Approved Housing Counselors. A valid company email address and the FHA 5-digit Lender and/or Agency ID are required at the time of registration. No fee. For additional information, please email: <a href="mailto:Stacey.a.brown@hud.gov">Stacey.a.brown@hud.gov</a>
  - o February 11, 2015 HUD Extension of Time and Variance Request System (EVARS) Training. This webinar will enhance the Lender's understanding of HUD's minimum time requirements for submission of an extension of time request, as well as the Lender's understanding of when a variance from HUD's policy is required. Topics to be covered include: types of extensions and variances, events that affect the First Legal Deadline, system access, and how to submit both an Extension of Time Request and Variance. Register on-line.
- 7. Counselor's Corner Training: Webinar: Certified Military Home Specialist Webinars training. Sponsored by The Counselor's Corner and Boots Across America. This course is designed to acquaint housing professionals with military terminology that is often foreign to the housing community. The course provides the tools and introduces the skills needed by housing professionals to provide the expert service our military personnel need and deserve. This is a certification course, which is free. There is a fee for taking the exam online after the webinar. Additional sessions of this webinar will be offered every month during the year. For more information visit the Counselors Corner website.
  - February 11, 2015 Register on-line.
  - February 26, 2015 Register on-line.
- **8. Making Home Affordable (MHA):** These webinars are designed specifically for housing counselors and other trusted advisors. Register on-line:
  - February 04, 2015 Case Escalations for Servicers
  - February 12, 2015 Understanding the Terms of a HAMP Modification: Interest Rate Step-Up, Impact, and Resources
  - February 19, 2015 Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternatives Program for Trusted Advisors
  - February 25, 2015 Georgia Hardest Hit Fund Overview
- **9. Marketing 101 by VHDA:** The Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) is providing <u>YouTube</u> video training for non-profit agencies on how to market the services your agency offers. Additionally, they have posted many

more informative training videos for non-profit agencies and consumers; please visit their <u>YouTube Channel</u> to view all their current training offerings.

- 10. OCC Financial Literacy Update: The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC)'s Financial Literacy Update is a bimonthly e-newsletter that reports financial literacy events, initiatives, and related resources of the OCC and other government agencies and organizations. Financial Literacy Update provides brief descriptions and Web links for events and training. Housing Counselors can visit the Financial Literacy Update on-line.
- **11. HOPE NOW Military Housing Podcast:** The HOPE NOW Military Housing Podcast is an entertaining and educational series of conversations focused on military off-base housing. Sponsored by HopeNow and Clearpoint Financial Solutions. No fee. Listen to the Podcasts on-line.

## **HUD-OHC Listserv Bulk subscriptions:**

Some housing counselors have asked, "How do I sign up my entire agency staff for HUD Office of Housing Counseling (HUD-OHC) listserv updates?" It is easy... Just list your staff email addresses like this:

aaa@xyz.com bbb@xyz.com ccc@xyz.com

You can send in one email address or your entire agency. Then <u>Email your list</u> to HUD-OHC. If you have a housing counseling industry friend who you want to subscribe to this listserv, there are 2 other ways to sign up: Send them this <u>link</u> or forward them this email.

## **Some Helpful Links for Housing Counselors:**

- Email Technical Support for Housing Counselors
- HUD Housing Counseling Webpage
- The Bridge Housing Counseling Newsletter Archive
- Housing Counseling Listserv Archive
- OHC Webinar Archive
- Events & Training Calendar
- Contracting Opportunities
- Employment Opportunities
- Grant Opportunities
- Disaster Recovery Resources
- Foreclosure Assistance
- Making Home Affordable

- FHA Resource Center
- Index of HUD Listserv Mailing Lists

**Disclaimer:** This list will often provide training opportunities, event notifications and other announcements for non-profit and government HUD Housing Counseling partners. HUD does not endorse the organizations sponsoring linked websites, and we do not endorse the views they express or the products/services they or their community/business partner's offer. For more information please see <a href="https://example.com/hUD/s web-policies"><u>HUD's web-policies.</u></a>

**Unsubscribe:** Click here to <u>unsubscribe</u>, then click on "Housing Counseling" and follow the unsubscribe instructions on that page.

Thank you!!!!